| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
|---|---|---|---|
| 15 | Solapur . . . . | Solapur | 645 |
| 16 | Ratnagiri . . . . | (i) Ratnagiri<br>(ii) Sindhudurg | 540 |
| 17 | Nagpur . . . . | Nagpur | 436 |
| 18 | Latur . . . . . | (i) Latur<br>(ii) Osmanabad<br>(iii) Beed | 747 |
| 19 | Pune . . . . . | | 2461 |
| 20 | MTNL, Bombay . . . | | 44048 |

**Countrywide data communication network**

86. SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the reasons for the delay in completing Vikram network which was meant for providing countrywide data communication;

(b) whether it is a fact that Maharashtra Electronics Corporation had sought permission from the Central Government for creating such a network between Aurangabad, Pune, Kolhapur, Nagpur and Bombay; and

(c) if so, what is the reaction of Government to this proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO): (a) As the Packet Switched Public Data Network 'Vikram' involves a new technology, and the network would be the first of its kind to be set up in the country.

(b) Keltron sought permission to set up a telecom network including a data network for MIDE, industrial sites in Maharashtra.

(c) The permission has not been granted as the request was for setting up a public telecommunication network, the provision and operation of which is undertaken by the Department of Telecommunications.

**Proposal for a gas pipeline from South Basin to Marathwada and Vidarbha areas**

87. SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA JAYAWANTRAO PATIL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government have received any proposals from the Government of Maharashtra for creating a gas pipeline from the gas fields of South Basin to the backward areas of Marathwada and Vidarbha; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) and (b) The Government of Maharashtra had suggested that the HBJ Pipeline be taken along the Central railway route or a branch line be constructed to supply gas to fertilizer plants in Vidarbha and other areas in Maharashtra State.

This was considered by Government and not found feasible.